

Application No: 10/714,887
Amendment dated June 13, 2006
Reply to Restriction Requirement of April 13, 2006

REMARKS

Applicants believe no new matter is added by these amendments to the specification and claims. Claims 1-12, 19, 21, 23-24 and 28-33 have been canceled. After entry of the present amendments, Claims 13-18, 20, 22, 25-27, and 34-44 will remain in this application.

Amendments to the specification. The addition of the paragraph at page 1, line 13, indicates a research agreement between the present assignee, Mendel Biotechnology, Inc. and Monsanto Corporation.

The amendment to add the creation date of the Sequence Listing is supported by the creation date of the Sequence Listing files on the CD-ROMs filed with the application.

Amendments to the claims. The amendments to the claims reflect the withdrawal of the unelected invention (polynucleotide sequences). The presently amended claims are also directed to the elected sequences, thus providing to the remaining claims the common structural features of G922, polynucleotide SEQ ID NO: 3 and/or encoded polypeptide SEQ ID NO: 4.

Support for the term "water deprivation" is provided by, for example, the specification at page 3, line 2 through page 5; line 10, page 21, line 14; page 112, lines 14-28 and in particular lines 19-20; page 113, lines 10-12; page 146, lines 33-34; and page 155, lines 18-22.

Support for increased tolerance to water deprivation, osmotic stress and/or salt by G922-overexpressing plants is provided by, for example, page 118, line 33, to page 119, line 3.

Support for increased tolerance to 9.4% sucrose or 150 mM NaCl is found, for example, on page 10, lines 17-22, in Figures 21A-21D, and on page 118, line 33 - page 119, line 3.

Support for a conserved SCR domain binds to a DNA regulatory sequence may be found, for example, in Table 1, pages 35-37 (SCR domain as a conserved domain) and on page 22, lines 29-33 (when a transcription factor having one or more specific binding domains binds to the DNA regulatory sequence).

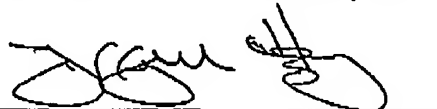
Support for percentage identities to specific SCR domains may be found in Table 1, pages 35-37.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that no additional fee is due with this communication. However, if the USPTO determines that an additional fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Mendel Biotechnology, Inc. Deposit Account No. 50-1025.

Respectfully submitted,
MENDEL BIOTECHNOLOGY, INC.



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